

AVENGERS: THE INITIATIVE



SIEGE™

GAGE • MOLINA • OLAZABA • DELGADO

MARVEL 33

RATED T+
\$2.99 US
DIRECT EDITION
MARVEL.COM

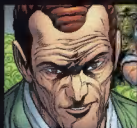


7 59606 06084 9



AVENGERS THE INITIATIVE

After a superhuman battle at Stamford, Connecticut resulted in a fatal explosion, the federal Superhuman Registration Act was passed. All individuals possessing paranormal abilities must now register with the government via the Initiative, a plan to train and position a superhuman team in each of America's fifty states.



NORMAN
OSBORN



TASKMASTER



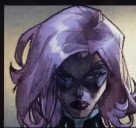
THE HOOD



JUSTICE



NIGHT
THRASHER



DIAMONDBACK

Osborn utilized the Initiative to his own ends, promoting the assassin Taskmaster and The Hood to senior staff positions.

Osborn also began filling the ranks of the Fifty State Initiative with an army of "reformed" villains trained by Taskmaster at Camp H.A.M.M.E.R.

After discovering strange transactions happening within the Initiative, the Avengers Resistance—led by Justice, Tigra, Ultragirl, and Night Thrasher—realized that Initiative members were paid off to cause an incident reminiscent of the Stamford tragedy. An incident that led to the siege of Asgard! Now, with the siege well underway, Taskmaster set out to prove himself by taking part in the assault on the mighty Thor!

CHRISTOS
GAGE
writer

JORGE
MOLINA
penciler

VICTOR
OLAZABA
inker

EDGAR
DELGADO
colorist

VC's JOE
CARAMAGNA
letterer

DAVID
YARDIN
cover artist

RACHEL
PINNELAS
asst. editor

BILL
ROSEMANN
editor

JOE
QUESADA
editor in chief

DAN
BUCKLEY
publisher

ALAN
FINE
exec. producer

To find MARVEL COMICS at a local comic and hobby shop, go to www.comicshoplocator.com or call 1-888-COMICBOOK.

AVENGERS: THE INITIATIVE No. 33, April, 2010. Published Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 417 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10018. © 2010 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, with all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. \$2.99 per copy in the U.S. (GST #R127032852) in the direct market; Canadian Agreement #40686337. Printed in the USA. ALAN FINE, EVP - Office Of The President, Marvel Worldwide, Inc. and EVP & CMO Marvel Characters B.V. DAN BUCKLEY, Chief Executive Officer and Publisher - Print, Animation & Digital Media; JIM SOKOLOWSKI, Chief Operating Officer; DAVID GABRIEL, SVP of Publishing Sales & Circulation; DAVID BOGART, SVP of Business Affairs & Talent Management; MICHAEL PASCHULLO, VP of Merchandising & Communications; JIM O'KEEFE, VP of Operations & Logistics; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; JUSTIN F. GABRIEL, Director of Publishing & Editorial Operations; SUSAN CRESPI, Editorial Operations Manager; ALEX MORALES, Publishing Operations Manager; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Alex Stern, VP of Business Development, at astern@marvel.com. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-211-3153.

Then

YOU'RE
GOIN' DOWN,
DWAYNE!

THWAM

WHAT'S
THE MATTER
WITH YOU?

FIGHT
BACK!

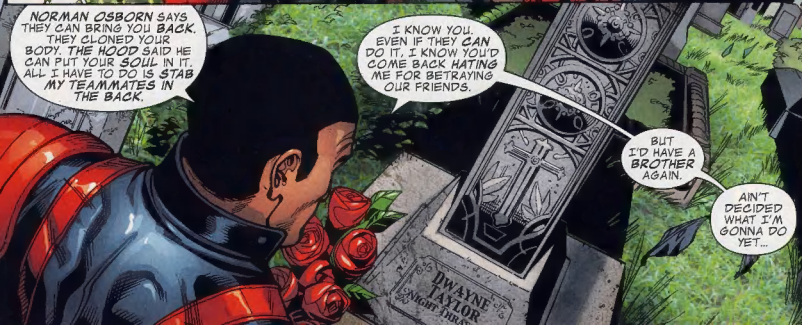
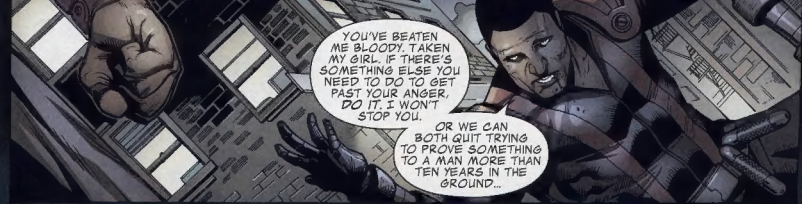
WHUD

NO,
DONYELL, YOU'RE
MY BROTHER. I'LL
NEVER RAISE A
HAND TO YOU
AGAIN.

I UNDERSTAND
YOUR RESENTMENT.
I'M ANGRY AT OUR
FATHER, TOO.

FOR CHEATING
ON MY MOTHER.
FOR PAYING OFF YOUR
MOTHER TO KEEP YOU
OUT OF HIS LIFE. FOR
DEPRIVING ME OF THE
BROTHER I ALWAYS
WANTED.

BUT HE'S
DEAD, DONYELL.
HE'S BEEN DEAD
FOR YEARS.



Now.
Camp H.A.M.M.E.R.
The Initiative's
Training Facility.

Scarlet Spider

Ultragirl

Justice

"...BUT I GUESS
I BETTER
FIGURE IT OUT."

Night
Thrasher

Gauntlet

Rage

Tigra

THE HAMMER FALLS PART 1
OF 3

The Hood's Office.

I WANT ALL MY GUYS OUT THERE. MY GUYS ONLY. EVERYONE WHO WAS IN THE INITIATIVE WHEN STARK WAS RUNNING IT STAYS CONFINED TO QUARTERS. WE CAN'T TRUST THEM.

The Hood

WHAT ABOUT PENANCE?

CONFINED TO QUARTERS UNDER ARMED GUARD. YOU HEAR ME, RAZOR-FISTS THAT FREAK'S A LOOSE CANNON. HE MOVES, THEY SHOOT.

COPY THAT. YOU WANT ME TO SEND WORD TO MR. OSBORN AND TASKMASTER?

DON'T BOTHER. EVEN UNDERMANNED, WE'VE GOT THEM OUTNUMBERED AND OUTGUNNED...NOT TO MENTION AN ACE IN THE HOLE.

BESIDES, OSBORN AND TASKMASTER...

Baron Von Blitzschlag

Broxton, Oklahoma.
Beneath Asgard.

"...THEY HAVE
OTHER THINGS ON
THEIR MINDS."





WHAT
ARE YOU
GRINNING
AT?

I...WE
BEAT HIM.
WE BEAT
THOR.

IN FRONT
OF CAMERAS
NOW EVERYONE'S
GONNA KNOW
WHO'S IN
CHARGE.



THEY KNOW
THAT ALREADY.
WHEN THEY LOOK
AT ME.

YOU DEFIED ORDERS. HAD
NO BUSINESS BEING IN ON
THIS. IF YOU THINK THOR EVEN
NOTICED YOUR PATHETIC
LOVE TAPS, YOU ARE OFF-
YOUR-MEDS DELUSIONAL.

THERE'S STILL A HUNK OF
ROCK THE SIZE OF BROOKLYN
FLOATING ABOVE, FILLED WITH
IMMORTALS WHO HAVE TO BE
PUT DOWN. GO DO YOUR JOB
THERE. WHERE YOU MIGHT
CONCEIVABLY PROVE USEFUL.

AM I
UNDERSTOOD?

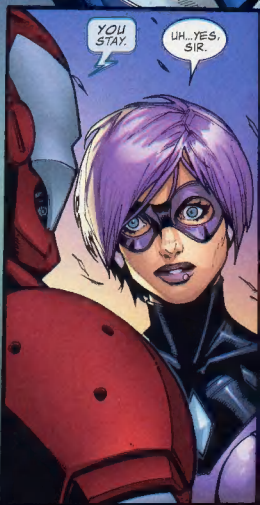


...
YES
SIR, MR.
OSBORN.



I GUESS
THAT GOES
DOUBLE FOR ME.
I'LL JUST--

NO,
DIAMONDBACK.



YOU
STAY.

UH...YES,
SIR.



I'M
DELUSIONAL?

OSBORN'S CRACKIN'
UP. I THOUGHT HE
HAD A PLAN, BUT HE'S
JUST A DOG MARKIN'
HIS TERRITORY. A
PARANOID DOG WHO
THINKS EVERYONE'S
OUT TO GET HIM.

THIS WAS SUPPOSED
TO PUT ME IN THE BIG
LEAGUES, BUT AIN'T NO
ROOM THERE FOR ANYONE
BUT NORMAN. IN HIS WORLD,
I'M EITHER HIS STOOGE
OR A TRAITOR.



IF I DON'T PLAY
THIS SMART, I'M
GONNA GET KILLED.
ONLY QUESTION
IS BY WHO...

IMPRESSIVE,
MORTAL. TRY
SKILL INCREASES
WITH EACH STROKE...
FAIR RIVALS
MY OWN.

BUT
FANPRAL HAS
AN ASSET
YOU CANNOT
BOAST...



...FRIENDS.

MAY I
PRESENT
ROGUE THE
GRIM.

BRIGAND.

AH,
HELL.



BEGONE
FROM OUR
HOME...

...OR REMAIN
ETERNALLY!



HE
ORDERED
ME TO
STAY.

THAT CAN'T
MEAN ANYTHING
GOOD.

THOR, MY NAME
IS NORMAN OSBORN.
AND YOU ARE UNDER
ARREST FOR TREASON
AGAINST THE UNITED
STATES GOVERNMENT.



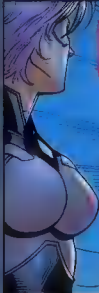
MAYBE HE WANTS
ME HERE FOR SHOW.
BECAUSE I USED TO
BE CAPTAIN AMERICA'S
PARTNER. HE THINKS I
ADD LEGITIMACY TO
THIS... THIS SLAUGHTER.

MAYBE HE ISN'T
GOING TO HAVE ME
SHOT AS SOON AS
HE'S SURE THOR
IS DOWN.

YEAH.
AND MAYBE
MY HAIR'S
NATURALLY
PINK.



STOP IT. IT
DOESN'T MATTER.
ALL IT MEANS
IS I'VE GOT THAT
MUCH MORE
REASON TO QUIT
STANDING HERE
LIKE AN
IDIOT AND DO
SOMETHING.



IF I'M
GOING TO DIE
TODAY, I'LL DIE
HELPING A REAL
AVENGER--

--I'LL BE
DAMNED.
THAT'S
MARIA HILL.

THE EX-DIRECTOR
OF S.H.I.E.L.D. CHARGING
OSBORN WITH A PICKUP
TRUCK AND A SHOULDER-
MOUNTED MISSILE.



SHE'S
SUICIDAL.

SHE'S
BEAUTIFUL.



I FEEL
PRETTY,
MYSELF.

OKAY,
HERE'S
WHERE MY
EXPLOSIVE
DIAMONDS
DO THAT
SOMETHING.



! W U H O O O M





WHAT IS
WRONG WITH
YOU?!

FRANK?



WE'VE
GOT TO GET
YOU OUT
OF HERE!

STOP
IT! JUST
STOP!



LISTEN TO
ME, RACHEL. YOU
MAY NOT CARE IF
YOU LIVE OR DIE,
BUT I DO.

YOU ONLY
CARE ABOUT
YOURSELF OR YOU'D
LISTEN TO ME
WHEN I TALK
TO YOU.

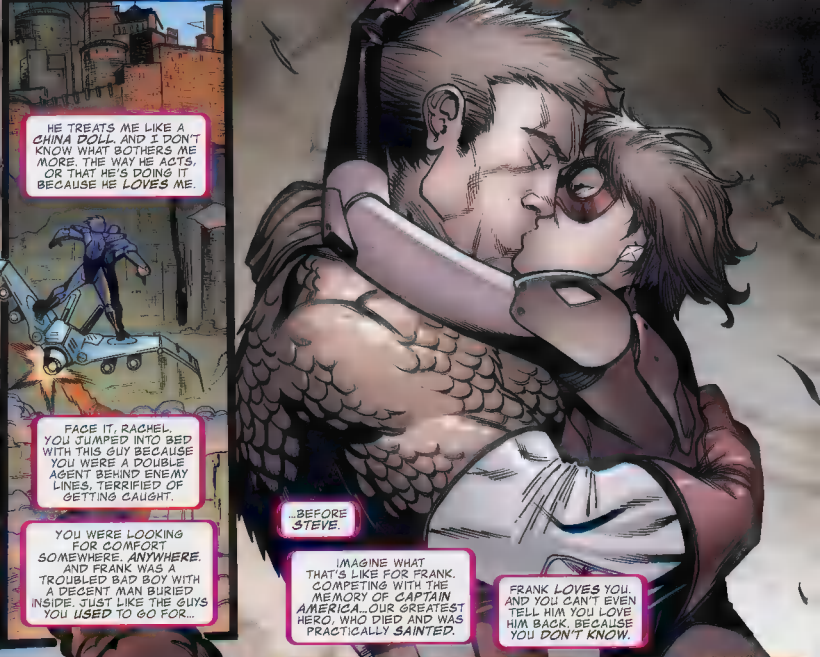
I WILL
NOT STAND
BY WHILE OSBORN
KILLS THE LAST OF
WHAT'S GOOD IN
THIS WORLD.

YOU DON'T
GET IT. YOU AND
ME, WE GOT NO
SAY IN WHAT
HAPPENS.

THESE ARE
GODS AND OMEGA-
LEVEL POWERS
SMACKING INTO EACH
OTHER. YOU HAVE NO
BUSINESS HERE. ALL
YOU CAN DO IS GET
YOURSELF KILLED.



THIS MAN
INFURIATES
ME.



HE TREATS ME LIKE A CHINA DOLL. AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT BOTHERS ME MORE, THE WAY HE ACTS, OR THAT HE'S DOING IT BECAUSE HE LOVES ME.

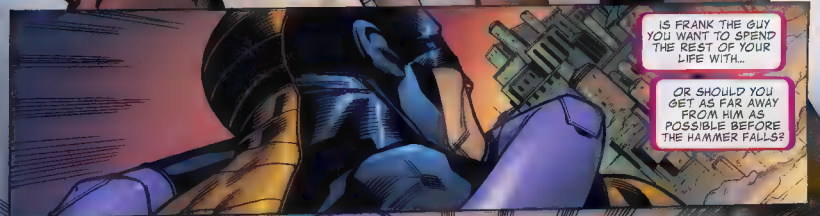
FACE IT, RACHEL. YOU JUMPED INTO BED WITH THIS GUY BECAUSE YOU WERE A DOUBLE AGENT BEHIND ENEMY LINES, TERRIFIED OF GETTING CAUGHT.

YOU WERE LOOKING FOR COMFORT SOMEWHERE. ANYWHERE. AND FRANK WAS A TROUBLED BAD BOY WITH A DECENT MAN BURIED INSIDE. JUST LIKE THE GUYS YOU USED TO GO FOR...

...BEFORE STEVE.

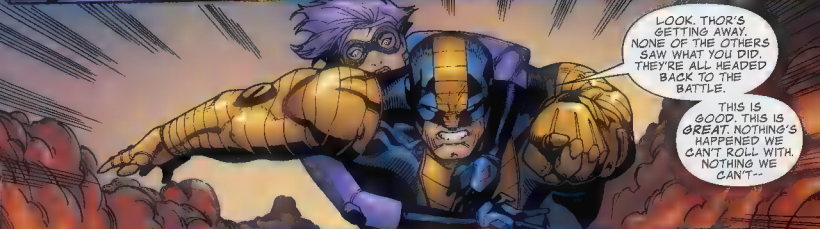
IMAGINE WHAT THAT'S LIKE FOR FRANK. COMPETING WITH THE MEMORY OF CAPTAIN AMERICA...OUR GREATEST HERO, WHO DIED AND WAS PRACTICALLY SAINTED.

FRANK LOVES YOU. AND YOU CAN'T EVEN TELL HIM YOU LOVE HIM BACK, BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW.



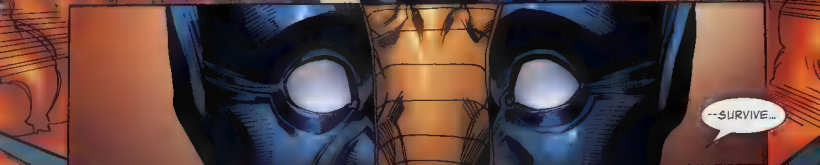
IS FRANK THE GUY YOU WANT TO SPEND THE REST OF YOUR LIFE WITH...

OR SHOULD YOU GET AS FAR AWAY FROM HIM AS POSSIBLE BEFORE THE HAMMER FALLS?



LOOK, THOR'S GETTING AWAY. NONE OF THE OTHERS SAW WHAT YOU DID. THEY'RE ALL HEADED BACK TO THE BATTLE.

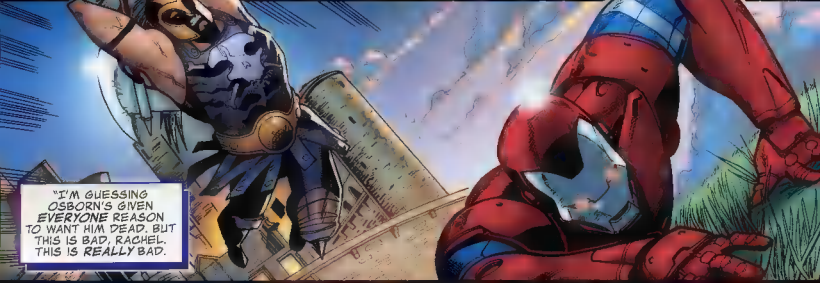
THIS IS GOOD. THIS IS GREAT. NOTHING'S HAPPENED WE CAN'T ROLL WITH. NOTHING WE CAN'T--



--SURVIVE...



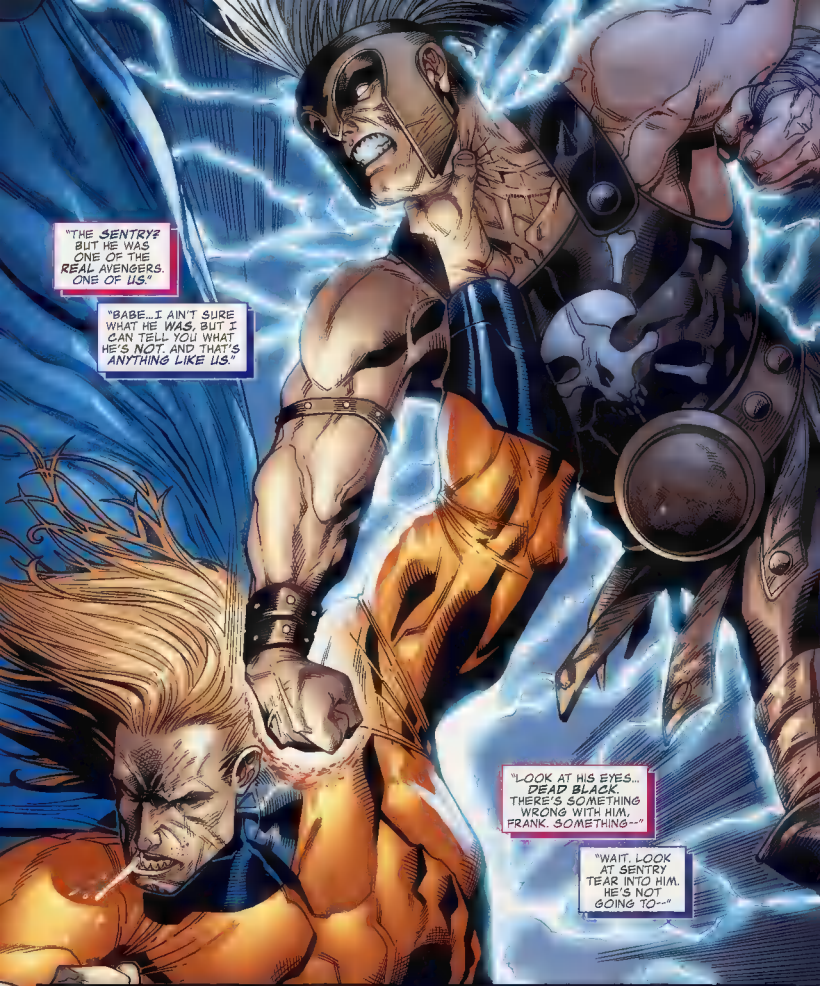
"FRANK, THAT'S
ARES. BUT HE'S
ONE OF NORMAN'S
AVENGERS.
WHY IS HE—"



"I'M GUESSING
OSBORN'S GIVEN
EVERYONE REASON
TO WANT HIM DEAD. BUT
THIS IS BAD, RACHEL.
THIS IS REALLY BAD."



"'CAUSE FROM WHAT
TASKMASTER TOLD
ME, OSBORN'S GOT
A MAD GOD ON
HIS SIDE, TOO."

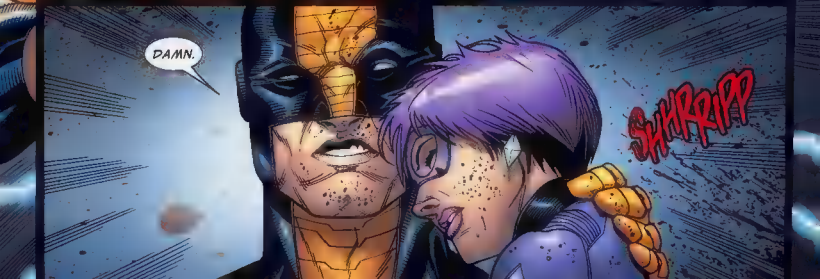


"THE SENTRY?
BUT HE WAS
ONE OF THE
REAL AVENGERS.
ONE OF US."

"BABE...I AIN'T SURE
WHAT HE WAS, BUT I
CAN TELL YOU WHAT
HE'S NOT. AND THAT'S
ANYTHING LIKE US."

"LOOK AT HIS EYES...
DEAD BLACK.
THERE'S SOMETHING
WRONG WITH HIM.
FRANK. SOMETHING--"

"WAIT. LOOK
AT SENTRY
TEAR INTO HIM.
HE'S NOT
GOING TO--"



DAMN.

SHRRIPP



OP'S
BLOOD. LORD
ARES...

...IS
HAMBURGER
HELPER. I
KNEW IT.

THIS. THIS IS
WHAT HAPPENS
WHEN LUNATICS
RUN THE SHOW.



SENTRY WAS A FEW
BEERS SHORT OF A
CASE BEFORE OSBORN
GOT HIS HOOKS IN HIM.
NOW HE'S TOTALLY
OFF THE CHAIN.

THIS COULDA BEEN
A WIN FOR US. A
DECISIVE WIN. BUT THE
LONGER IT GOES, THE
MORE CHANCE IT HAS OF
TURNIN' INTO VIETNAM.



BOB! TAKE
TO THE CITY.
GIVE THOR
HIS WISH.

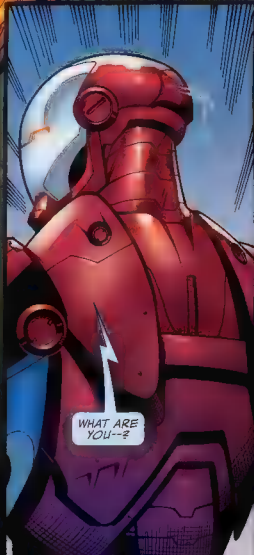
YER KIDDIN' ME.
HE'S GONNA LET
THAT MONSTER
LOOSE AROUND
CIVILIANS?

FORGET VIETNAM.
THIS IS GONNA TURN
INTO HIROSHIMA. I
GOTTA GET OSBORN'S
FOCUS BACK THIS
WAY SOMEHOW...



OKAY.
THAT MIGHT
DO IT.

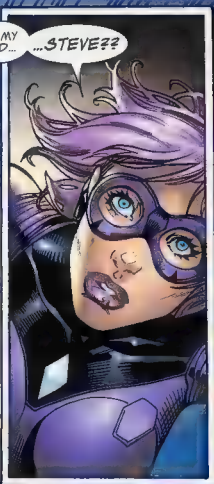
OSBORN,
YOU MIGHT
WANT TO TURN
AROUND.



WHAT ARE
YOU--?

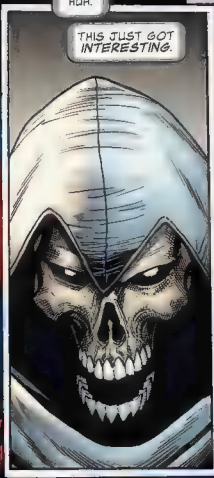


OH MY GOD...
...STEVE??



HUH.

THIS JUST GOT
INTERESTING.



Camp H.A.M.M.E.R.

IT'S
WORKING.

JUSTICE WAS
RIGHT. THEY'RE
UNDERMANNED.

REINFORCEMENTS
WOULD'VE BEEN
HERE BY NOW...IF
THERE WERE ANY.

--URK!

THEY ONLY
HAVE TWO
FLIERS! PICK 'EM
OFF AND WE
GOT AIR
SUPREMACY--

AND NOW IT'S TOO LATE.
SCARLET SPIDER'S JACKED
THEIR SYSTEMS. HIS "FATHER"
THE BARON, DESIGNED 'EM,
AND HE KNOWS HOW THAT
CRAZY OLD FOSSIL THINKS.

NOW THEIR COMMS
ARE OFF. THEIR PLANES
ARE GROUNDED. THEIR
WEAPONS ARE DOWN.
WE ACTUALLY HAVE A
SHOT AT WINNING THIS.

IS THAT
WHAT I
WANT?



**Penance's
Quarters.**

WAS THAT AN
EXPLOSION?

NOT YOUR
CONCERN. ORDERS
FROM THE TOP.

IF WE'RE UNDER ATTACK,
WHY WOULDN'T THEY WANT
ME OUT THERE?

I'M WARNING
YOU, THESE GUNS
FIRE S.P.I.N. TECH
DARTS, GENETICALLY
PROGRAMMED TO
TAKE AWAY YOUR
POWERS.

AND THEN YOUR NEXT
STOPS THE BARON'S LAB
FOR "RE-EDUCATION," WHICH
I'M GUESSING INVOLVES
SCALPELS AND BITS
OF BRAIN ON
THE FLOOR.

SO WE CAN DO
THIS ONE OF TWO
WAYS. MY WAY, OR
MY WAY PISSED
OFF.

MAKE
THE
CALL.

The Courtyard.

PICK A
SIDE, DONYELL.
OR I'LL PICK
FOR YOU.

AND YOUR
BROTHER
ROTS IN THE
GROUND.



WHAT
THE--?



RRRAAGH!







To Be Continued!



SIEGE

CHECKLIST

DECEMBER

- ☒ SIEGE: THE CABAL
- ☒ AVENGERS: THE INITIATIVE #31
- ☒ ORIGINS OF SIEGE

JANUARY

- ☒ SIEGE #1
- ☒ AVENGERS: THE INITIATIVE #32
- ☒ DARK AVENGERS #13
- ☒ DARK WOLVERINE #82
- ☒ NEW AVENGERS #61
- ☒ SIEGE: EMBEDDED #1
- ☒ SIEGE: STORMING ASGARD - HEROES & VILLAINS

FEBRUARY

- ☐ SIEGE #2
- ☐ AVENGERS: THE INITIATIVE #33
- ☐ DARK AVENGERS #14
- ☐ DARK WOLVERINE #83
- ☐ NEW AVENGERS #62
- ☐ SIEGE: EMBEDDED #2
- ☐ THOR #607
- ☐ THUNDERBOLTS #141

MARCH

- ☐ SIEGE #3
- ☐ AVENGERS: THE INITIATIVE #34
- ☐ DARK AVENGERS #15
- ☐ DARK WOLVERINE #84
- ☐ MIGHTY AVENGERS #35
- ☐ NEW AVENGERS #63
- ☐ NEW MUTANTS #11
- ☐ SIEGE: EMBEDDED #3
- ☐ THOR #608
- ☐ THUNDERBOLTS #142

APRIL

- ☐ SIEGE #4
- ☐ AVENGERS: THE INITIATIVE #35
- ☐ DARK AVENGERS #16
- ☐ FALLEN (not final title)
- ☐ MIGHTY AVENGERS #36
- ☐ NEW AVENGERS #64
- ☐ SIEGE: EMBEDDED #4
- ☐ THOR #609
- ☐ THUNDERBOLTS #143

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS
OLIVIER COIPEL